CLAIMS:

1. A luminaire (1) for illuminating an object, wherein the luminaire (1) comprises a housing (2) for accommodating at least one tubular lamp (3, 3', 3"), which housing (2) has a light emission window (4) for illuminating the object and a side wall (5, 5') transverse to the light emission window, the light emission window (4) being provided with a diffuser (7), and wherein a curtain (21) is provided between said tubular lamp (3, 3', 3") to be accommodated and the diffuser (7) at a distance from said diffuser (7) for obtaining a homogeneous light distribution in at least two stages, with the result that the light emission window shows an evenly illuminated surface.

2. A luminaire as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the curtain (21) shows a variation in light transmittance such that the light transmittance of the curtain (21) is chosen to be smaller directly opposite a location where the tubular lamp (3, 3', 3") is present during operation than farther removed from the lamp (3, 3', 3").

3. A luminaire as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the light transmittance of the curtain (21) in the location where the light transmittance is smallest amounts to approximately 50% of the light transmittance of the curtain (21) where the light transmittance is greatest.

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4. A luminaire as claimed in claim 2 or 3, characterized in that the curtain (21) has a variation in layer thickness so as to obtain said variation in light transmittance.

5. A luminaire as claimed in claim 1, 2, or 3, characterized in that the curtain (21) comprises a material chosen from the group formed by calcium halophosphate and calcium pyrophosphate.

6. A luminaire as claimed in claim 1, 2, or 3, characterized in that the curtain (21) comprises a fluoro-copolymer as a binder.

7. A luminaire as claimed in claim 1, 2, or 3, characterized in that the housing (2) further comprises a rear wall (8), and in that said rear wall (8) is provided with a reflecting coating (9) at a side facing the light emission window (4).

8. A luminaire as claimed in claim 1, 2, or 3, characterized in that said side wall (5, 5') is manufactured from a light-transmitting material.

9. An assembly of a first luminaire (1) and a second luminaire (11) both as claimed in claim 1, 2, or 3, wherein the first luminaire (1) lies against the second luminaire (11) with respective side walls (5, 15),

while an edge (6) of the light emission window (4) of the first luminaire (1) lies against an edge (16) of a light emission window (14) of the second luminaire (11) in the assembly of the first (1) and the second luminaire (11),

and said light emission windows (4; 14) and said side walls (5, 15) are manufactured from a light-transmitting material.

10. A method of presenting and/or selling an object, characterized in that the object is illuminated by means of a luminaire as claimed in claim 1, 2, or 3, or by means of an assembly as claimed in claim 9.

11. A method as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the object shows specular reflection.

12. A method as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the object comprises a motor vehicle or an objet d'art.